

**SUMMARY OF FEDERAL ELECTION REFORM LEGISLATION  
INTRODUCED IN THE 111TH CONGRESS**

This is a brief summary of federal election reform legislation introduced in the 111th Congress. Senate bills are listed first, in order of introduction, followed by House bills. Although the descriptions of each bill are not comprehensive, each bill summary includes hyperlinks for more information.

**INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE**

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**Bill No.:** S. 48 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Voting Integrity and Verification Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Sen. Ensign (R-NV)

**Date Introduced:** January 6, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** voting systems

**Description:** This bill would amend HAVA to require voting machines purchased after 2012 to produce voter-verifiable paper records. It would also require manual audits of the voter-verified paper records. If there are inconsistencies between the electronic vote tallies and the voter-verified paper records, the paper records are the true record of votes cast. This bill would also establish a program to award cash prizes to individuals who improve the accessibility of voting machines for people with disabilities.

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**Bill No.:** S. 149 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Weekend Voting Act

**Sponsors:** Sen. Kohl (D-WI)

**Date Introduced:** January 6, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** Election Day Holiday

**Related Bills:** H.R. 254

**Description:** This bill would establish Election Day as the first Saturday and Sunday after the first Friday in November, in every even numbered year. It also establishes uniform polling place hours for both congressional and presidential elections. Polls would be open from 10:00 a.m. EST on Saturday till 6:00 p.m. EST on Sunday, with polls allowed to close between the hours of 10:00 p.m. local time on Saturday and 6:00 a.m. local time on Sunday.

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**Bill No.:** S. 160 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Sen. Lieberman (D-CT) and 13 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 6, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** DC electoral representation/voting rights

**Related Bills:** H.R. 157, H.R. 665

**Description:** This bill would provide the District of Columbia with a voting seat in the House of Representatives and an additional representative from Utah.

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**Res. No.:** S.J. Res. 4 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]

**Sponsors:** Sen. Nelson (D-FL)

**Date Introduced:** January 8, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** Electoral College

**Related Bills:** H.J. Res. 9

**Description:** This joint resolution would amend the Constitution to abolish the Electoral College and provide for the direct popular election of President and Vice President.

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**Res. No.:** S.J. Res. 7 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]

**Sponsors:** Sen. Feingold (D-WI) and 2 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 29, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** vacancies

**Description:** This joint resolution would amend the Constitution to require the direct popular election of Senators who fill Senate vacancies.

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**Res. No.:** S.J. Res. 11 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]

**Sponsors:** Sen. Murkowski (R-AK) and 1 co-sponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** February 25, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** DC electoral representation/voting rights

**Description:** This bill would amend the Constitution of the United States to provide a seat in the House of Representatives for the District of Columbia.

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**Bill No.:** S. 528 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Caging Prohibition Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Sen. Whitehouse (D-RI) and 12 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** March 5, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** caging

**Related Bills:** H.R. 103

**Description:** This bill would prohibit state or local election officials from preventing an individual from registering or voting (including by provisional ballot) in any election for federal office, or permitting a formal challenge under state law to an individual's registration status or eligibility to vote in a federal election, if the sole basis for such decision or challenge is evidence consisting of: (1) a voter caging document or voter caging list; (2) an unverified match list; (3) the foreclosure status of the individual's residence; or (4) certain information indicating a change of residence.

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**Bill No.:** S. 751 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Fair Elections Revenue Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Sen. Durbin (D-IL) and 2 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** March 31, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** fair elections, campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code to impose an excise tax on payments made pursuant to a U.S. government contract to any person which is not a state or local government or a foreign nation and has contracts with the U.S. government in excess of \$10 million.

Tax revenues raised by this Act would be used for the financing of a Fair Elections Fund and the public financing of Senate elections.

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**Bill No.:** S. 752 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Fair Elections Now Act

**Sponsors:** Sen. Durbin (D-IL) and 5 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** March 31, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** fair elections, campaign finance

**Related Bills:** H.R. 1826

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) with respect to: (1) eligibility and qualifying contribution requirements and benefits of fair elections financing of Senate election campaigns; (2) establishment of a Fair Elections Fund; (3) eligibility for Fund allocations; (4) contribution and expenditure requirements; (5) a public debate requirement; (6) certification of whether or not a federal election candidate is a participating candidate; (7) benefits for participating candidates; (8) matching payments for qualified small dollar contributions; (9) political advertising vouchers; (10) establishment of a Fair Elections Oversight Board; (11) civil penalties for violation of contribution and expenditure requirements; (12) prohibition of joint fundraising committees with any political committee other than a candidate's authorized committee; and (13) a specified limitation on coordinated expenditures by political party committees with participating candidates.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1026 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Military Voting Protection Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Sen. Cornyn (R-TX) and 32 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** May 12, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting

**Related Bills:** H.R. 2393

**Description:** This bill would provide for improvements to absentee balloting for overseas uniformed services voters. It would require the Presidential designee to send the marked absentee ballots of overseas voters to election officials via USPS express mail delivery, so long as the marked ballots are collected by the fourth day preceding an election. The Presidential designee would be authorized to establish alternative deadlines for certain overseas locations to ensure that marked ballots are timely returned to election officials to be counted. The bill would also require the Presidential designee to establish procedures for an individual to track his marked absentee ballot. Within 180 days

after each general election, the Presidential designee would be required to submit a report to the relevant Congressional committees on the collection and delivery of overseas absentee ballots. The bill would also authorize the Presidential designee to take steps to protect the privacy and secrecy of overseas absentee ballots.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1077 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Robocall Privacy Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Sen. Feinstein (D-CA) and 2 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** May 19, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** deceptive practices

**Description:** This bill would make it unlawful for a person during specified periods before a federal primary or general election to make certain prerecorded political telephone calls with respect to a candidate for federal office without immediate disclosure of the recorded nature of the calls, the identity of the caller, and the appearance of the caller's telephone number on the recipient's caller identification service.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1103 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Voter Fraud Prevention Act

**Sponsors:** Sen. Vitter (R-LA) and 14 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** May 20, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** voter registration

**Description:** This act would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prescribe standards for paid distribution of voter registration application forms and registration requirements for organizations.

This act would prohibit any individual from distributing, for compensation, a voter registration application form for federal elections in a state if the individual: (1) has been convicted of a felony under any state or federal law; (2) does not sign and print legibly the individual's name on the form; (3) does not provide identifying information to the proper election official; or (4) does not certify, under penalty of perjury, that he or she has not received financial compensation based on the number of voter registration application forms submitted by the individual to an election official upon completion by the applicant, and that the information provided by the individual is accurate to the best of the individual's knowledge.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1125 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Student VOTER Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Sen. Durbin (D-IL)  
**Date Introduced:** May 21, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** student voting  
**Related Bills:** H.R. 1729

**Description:** This bill would amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require states to designate federally-funded institutions of higher education as agencies for the registration of voters in federal elections.

This bill would also require such schools to provide mail voter registration application forms to students registering to enroll in their courses.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1265 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Military Voters' Equal Access to Voter Registration Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Sen. Cornyn (R-TX) and 14 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** June 15, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting  
**Related Bills:** H.R. 3274

**Description:** This bill would amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require each Secretary of a military department to designate an office on each Armed Forces installation to ensure that certain individuals are provided the opportunity to register to vote in federal elections, update voter registrations, and request absentee ballots under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1390 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010  
**Sponsors:** Sen. Levin (D-MI)  
**Date Introduced:** July 2, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting

**Related Bills:** H.R. 2647, S. 1391, S. 1392, S. 1393

**Description:** Section H of this bill would authorize any state to delegate to jurisdictions within the state its responsibilities in carrying out the requirements of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) as imposed by this Act.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1415 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Sen. Schumer (D-NY) and 9 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** July 8, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting

**Description:** This bill would provide for improvements to overseas absentee voting. It would allow overseas voters to request voter registration and absentee ballot applications via electronic mail and facsimile, and allow States to send these requested materials to the voters via those transmission methods. It would require States to designate at least one email address and one facsimile number for correspondence with overseas voters; the designated email address and facsimile number should be included in all communications with these voters.

This bill would also provide for a public online directory of contact information for state election officials, including the designated email address and facsimile number to be used by overseas voters.

It would require states to establish procedures for transmitting blank absentee ballots to overseas and uniformed services voters via electronic mail and facsimile. States would be required to send absentee ballots to overseas and uniformed services voters by the 45th day before an election if the absentee ballot request was received before the 45th day, or if the request is received within 45 days of an election, as soon as practicable. In most cases, the bill would also provide for a 10-day grace period for ballots to be received after Election Day, so long as they were postmarked in time. States may request an exemption from these requirements if they have a comprehensive plan for ensuring that overseas voters have enough time to receive, mark and submit their ballots in time to be counted.

This bill would require the Presidential designee to work with the USPS to provide uniformed services voters with access to express mail delivery to return their marked absentee ballots, free of postage. In addition, the chief election official in each state would be required to develop a free access system for uniformed services voters to track the delivery of their marked ballots.

The bill would also expand the use of the federal write-in absentee ballot to special, primary, and runoff elections for federal office. It would prohibit states from refusing to accept and process voter registration or absentee ballot applications, or marked absentee ballots on the basis of technical deficiencies.

The bill would require the Presidential designee to improve the Federal Voting Assistance Program by developing standards for training and supporting Voting Assistance Officers, among other things. It would also permit the Presidential designee to conduct pilot programs to explore other ways to improve absentee balloting for overseas and uniformed services voters.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1431 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Sen. Nelson, Bill (D-FL) and 1 co-sponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** July 9, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** voting systems

**Related Bills:** H.R. 2894

**Description:** This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) to revise requirements for the audit capacity of voting systems, particularly those for a permanent paper record.

The bill would mandate the voting system to require the use of an individual, durable, voter-verified paper ballot of the voter's vote that shall be marked and made available for inspection by the voter before the voter's vote is cast and counted, and which shall be counted by hand or read by an optical scanner or other counting device. The legislation also would require the voting system to provide the voter with an opportunity to correct any system-made error in the voter-verified paper ballot before it is permanently preserved.

The bill would require each paper ballot used to be: (1) suitable for a manual audit; and (2) counted by hand in any recount or audit conducted with respect to any federal election.

The bill would also:

- Set forth a special rule for treatment of disputes when paper ballots have been shown to be compromised.
- Require the Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) to make grants to eligible entities to study, test, and develop accessible ballot voting, verification, and casting mechanisms and devices and best practices to enhance the accessibility of paper ballot voting and verification mechanisms for individuals with disabilities, for voters whose primary language is not English, and for voters with difficulties in literacy.
- Specify additional voting system requirements and prohibitions.
- Require the NSF Director to make grants to eligible entities to conduct research on the development of election-dedicated voting system software.
- Make available additional funding to enable states to meet the costs of the requirements imposed by this Act.
- Provide for complaints to the Attorney General by persons aggrieved by violations of HAVA.
- Require each state to administer audits of federal election results, without advance notice to the precincts selected, consisting of random hand counts of the voter-verified paper ballots. Makes

an exception from this requirement for elections in which the winning candidate had no opponent or received 80% or more of the vote total.

- Prescribe requirements for determination of the number of ballots counted under the audit.
- Prescribe the process for administering audits.
- Require the Election Auditor of a state, as soon as practicable after the completion of an audit, to submit the results to the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) for publication.
- Prohibit certification of the results of any election until completion of audits.
- Provide for payments to states for the costs of conducting audits.
- Exempt from this Act any election for which a recount under state law will commence before certification of the election results.
- Repeal the EAC's exemption from certain federal government contracting requirements.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1516 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Democracy Restoration Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Sen. Feingold (D-WI) and 3 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** June 24, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** voting rights restoration  
**Related Bills:** H.R. 3335

**Description:** This bill declares that the right of a U.S. citizen to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied or abridged because that individual has been convicted of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, such individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility. This bill also provides for enforcement and remedies for violations of this Act.

This bill would prohibit any state, unit of local government, or other person from receiving or using any federal grant amounts to construct or improve a place of incarceration unless that person has a program to notify each U.S. citizen incarcerated in that person's jurisdiction, on release from such incarceration, of that individual's rights under this Act.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1556 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Veteran Voting Support Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Sen. Feinstein (D-CA) and 5 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** August 3, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** military voting, veteran voter registration  
**Related Bills:** H.R. 3335

**Description:** This bill would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be designated as voter registration agencies, and for other purposes.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1986 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Same Day Registration Act  
**Sponsors:** Sen. Feingold (D-WI) and 4 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** October 28, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** Election Day registration  
**Related Bills:** H.R. 3957

**Description:** This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require states to provide for same day registration.

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**Bill No.:** S. 1986 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Same Day Registration Act  
**Sponsors:** Sen. Feingold (D-WI) and 4 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** October 28, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** Election Day registration  
**Related Bills:** H.R. 3957

**Description:** This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require states to provide for same day registration.

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**Bill No.:** S. 2797 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Military Voter Compliant States Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Sen. Gregg (R-NH)  
**Date Introduced:** November 18, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting

**Description:** This bill would amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to exempt certain states from the requirement that a state transmit a validly requested absentee ballot to an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter not later than 45 days before a federal election if the voter's request is received at least 45 days before the election.

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**Bill No.:** S. 2959 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** American Elections Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Sen. Franken (D-MN)

**Date Introduced:** January 27, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to protect federal, state and local elections from the influence of foreign nationals.

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**Bill No.:** S.J. Res. 28 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections

**Sponsors:** Sen. Dodd (D-CT) and 3 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** February 24, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This constitutional amendment would declare that Congress shall have the power to regulate the raising and spending of money with respect to federal elections, including through limits on the amount of contributions and expenditures.

The constitutional amendment would also grant a state the power to regulate the raising and spending of money with respect to state elections, and would give Congress the power to implement and enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

## INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**Res. No.:** H.J. Res. 2 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]

**Sponsors:** Rep. Christensen (D-Virgin Islands) and 2 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 6, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** right to vote

**Description:** This resolution would amend the Constitution to state that the right to vote for President and Vice President shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or state on account of residency.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 59 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Ex-Offenders Voting Rights Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Jackson-Lee (D-TX)

**Date Introduced:** January 6, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** voting rights restoration

**Description:** This bill would restore the right to vote to individuals who have completed the terms of imprisonment of their felony sentence. Correctional officers are required to inform individuals within 30 days after their release of their right to vote in federal elections and the date of the next election in which they are eligible to vote.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 97 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Conyers (D-MI) and 18 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 6, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** deceptive practices

**Description:** This bill would prohibit knowing communication of false information regarding the time, place, or manner of conducting the election, voter eligibility, or explicit endorsements of candidates for office with the intention of preventing individuals from voting in federal elections. It establishes enforcement mechanisms for violations.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 103 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Caging Prohibition Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Rep. Conyers (D-MI) and 10 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** January 6, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** caging

**Description:** This bill would prohibit election officials from preventing individuals from registering to vote or voting in any federal election or from permitting formal voter challenges to voters' registration status or eligibility if the basis of information gathered from voter caging documents or lists or unverified match lists. It would also establish requirements of individuals who wish to challenge the voter eligibility of another individual and prohibit challenges based on voter caging documents or lists or unverified match lists.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 105 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Voting Opportunity and Technology Enhancement Rights Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Rep. Conyers (D-MI) and 5 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** January 6, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** absentee ballots, voting systems, provisional ballots, election resource allocation, Election Day registration, purges, early voting, Election Day holiday, voter registration, voter ID, impartial election administration, voting rights restoration, deceptive practices, caging

**Description:** This omnibus bill would provide for a variety of election reforms, including:

- *Absentee Ballots:* This bill would permit the use of a federal write-in absentee ballot by anyone who is eligible to vote in federal elections. The voter may designate a candidate by writing in the candidate's name or write in the name of a political party (in which case, the ballot will be counted for the candidate of the political party). Abbreviations, misspellings, or other minor variations in candidate or political party names will not make a ballot invalid.
- *Voting Systems:* This bill would mandate voter-verifiable records on all voting systems including means of verification for people with disabilities. It would also require the use of publicly available open source software on voting systems.
- *Provisional Ballots:* This bill would require states to count provisional ballots cast at the incorrect poll sites if they are otherwise eligible.

- *Election Resource Allocation*: This bill would require states to ensure that a minimum number of election resources such as voting machines and poll workers are allocated to poll sites.
- *Election Day Registration*: This bill would require states to allow people to register to vote and to vote on the day of a federal election.
- *Purges*: This bill would require states to post public notices of purges of names from the voter rolls at least 45 days before a federal election. It would also require states to mail voters notices of the intention to purge their names from the rolls.
- *Early Voting*: This bill would require states to permit early voting at least 15 days before a federal election. It also establishes requirements for poll sites where early voting is permitted.
- *Election Day Holiday*: This bill would make Election Day a legal public holiday beginning in 2010. It would also require a study of the impact this has on voter turnout.
- *Voter Registration*: This bill would permit voter registration applicants to sign an affidavit attesting to citizenship and age eligibility in lieu of checking the age and citizenship boxes on a voter registration form. It would also require states to establish online voter registration.
- *Voter ID*: This bill would add as acceptable proof of identity for in-person voting and voting by mail an executed affidavit attesting to one's identity.
- *Impartial Election Administration*: This bill would require states to post public notices of changes in state election laws at least 15 days before federal elections. It would also require states to treat election observers in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner.
- *Restoring Voting Rights*: This bill establishes that the right to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied because past of conviction of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, the individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility. Individuals are required to be informed of their right to vote upon completion of their term of imprisonment.
- *Deceptive Practices*: This bill amends the federal criminal code to prohibit deceptive practices in federal elections, modify the penalty for voter intimidation.
- *Caging*: This bill would prohibit election officials from denying the right to vote to individuals on the basis of documents developed through voter caging and other questionable challenges.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 157 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Norton (D-DC) and 2 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 6, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** DC voting rights

**Related Bills:** S. 160

**Description:** This bill would provide the District of Columbia with a voting seat in the House of Representatives and an additional representative from Utah.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 158 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Let the People Decide Clean Campaign Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Obey (D-WI) and 6 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 6, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) to establish specified expenditure limitations for House of Representatives general elections. It establishes the Treasury the Grassroots Good Citizenship Fund, which provides public funding for House candidates' expenditures. Certain additional amounts from state and national party committees are authorized. The bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to: (1) authorize taxpayers to designate specified overpayments and contributions for the Fund; and (2) increase corporate tax rates on taxable income above \$10 million, and require payment of the amounts received by reason of such increase to the Fund. FECA is amended to: (1) ban independent expenditures in House elections; (2) ban the use of nonfederal funds for certain disbursements; and (3) set forth specified House limitations for expenditures for elections other than general elections.

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**Res. No.:** H.J. Res. 9 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]

**Sponsors:** Rep. Green (D-TX)

**Date Introduced:** January 7, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** Electoral College

**Related Bills:** S.J. Res. 4

**Description:** This joint resolution would amend the Constitution to abolish the Electoral College and provide for the direct popular election of President and Vice President.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 253 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Critical Election Infrastructure Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Hastings (D-FL) and 6 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 7, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** election resource allocation

**Description:** This bill would direct the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to make grants to eligible states to carry out election administration improvement plans to promote efficiency and fairness in the operation of polling places in federal elections. This grant money can be used to acquire additional voting systems and equipment, train election administration officials; and allocate additional election administration officials to polling places serving larger numbers of voters.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 254 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Weekend Voting Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Israel (D-NY) and 1 co-sponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 7, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** Election Day Holiday

**Related Bills:** S. 149

**Description:** This bill would establish Election Day as the first Saturday and Sunday after the first Friday in November, in every even numbered year. It also establishes uniform polling place hours for both congressional and presidential elections. Polls would be open from 10:00 a.m. EST on Saturday till 6:00 p.m. EST on Sunday, with polls allowed to close between the hours of 10:00 p.m. local time on Saturday and 6:00 a.m. local time on Sunday.

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**Res. No.:** H.J. Res. 13 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]

**Sponsors:** Rep. Kaptur (D-OH) and 1 co-sponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 8, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This joint resolution would amend the Constitution to give Congress and states the power to set contribution limits for elections to federal office.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 512 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Federal Election Integrity Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Davis (D-CA)

**Date Introduced:** January 14, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** impartial election administration

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit certain State election administration officials from actively participating in electoral campaigns.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 665 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** District of Columbia Voting Rights Restoration Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Rohrbacher (R-CA)

**Date Introduced:** January 23, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** DC voting rights

**Related Bills:** S. 160

**Description:** This bill would treat residents of Washington DC as residents of Maryland for the purpose of Congressional and Presidential elections. It would also permit residents of Washington DC to hold Congressional office as residents of Maryland. This bill would also permanently increase the membership of the House of Representatives from 435 to 437 members. Generally, the entire area of Washington DC must be included in the same Congressional district, with exceptions. This bill also details policies relating to election administration in Washington DC.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 764 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** American Elections Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Heller (R-NV) and 10 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 28, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** language assistance

**Description:** This bill would generally require that ballots and voting information for federal election be provided in English only. It would provide for bilingual language assistance to certain jurisdictions with Native American or Native Alaskan populations only.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 899 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Ethical and Legal Elections for Congressional Transitions Act  
**Sponsors:** Rep. Schock (R-IL) and 7 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** February 4, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** vacancies  
**Description:** This bill would require states to hold special elections to fill Senate vacancies.

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**Res. No.:** H.J. Res. 28 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]  
**Sponsors:** Rep. Jackson (D-IL)  
**Date Introduced:** March 3, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** voting rights, Election Day registration  
**Description:** This resolution would grant all U.S. citizens who are eighteen years of age or older the right to vote in any public election held in the jurisdiction in which the citizen resides. It would prohibit the United States, any state, or any other public or private person or entity from denying or abridging the right to vote, but allow regulations narrowly tailored to produce efficient and honest elections.

This bill would also require each state to: (1) administer public elections in the state in accordance with election performance standards established by Congress; and (2) provide any eligible voter the opportunity to register and vote on the day of any public election.

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**Res. No.:** H.J. Res. 36 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]  
**Sponsors:** Rep. Jackson (D-IL)  
**Date Introduced:** March 3, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** Electoral College  
**Description:** This resolution would abolish the Electoral College and provide for the direct popular election of the President and the Vice President.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 1604 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Universal Right to Vote by Mail Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Davis (D-CA) and 50 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** March 19, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** absentee ballots  
**Description:** This bill would require states to allow all voters to cast mail-in ballots for any reason.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 1659 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Fixing the Federal Voting Assistance Program Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Rep. Maloney, Carolyn (D-NY) and 1 co-sponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** March 23, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting  
**Description:** This bill would amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to require the presidential designee responsible for carrying out federal functions under the Act to have experience in election administration and be approved by the Senate. This bill would also establish the Overseas Voting Advisory Board to conduct studies and issue reports with respect to various issues, including the ability of U.S. citizens who reside outside of the United States to register to vote and vote in elections for public office.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 1719 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Voter Registration Modernization Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Rep. Lofgren (D-CA)  
**Date Introduced:** March 25, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** internet voter registration  
**Description:** This bill would amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require states to provide for online completion and submission of voter registration applications and online assistance to voters in completing these forms, among other things. It would also require states to provide a secure means for voters to update their voter registration records online. It would also amend voter registration forms to provide a space for voters to list an email address at which they can receive voter registration and voting information.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 1729 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Student Voter Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Rep. Schakowsky (D-IL) and 3 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** March 26, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** student voting  
**Related Bills:** S. 1125

**Description:** This bill would amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require states to designate federally-funded institutions of higher education as voter registration agencies in federal elections. It would also require such schools to provide mail voter registration application forms to students registering to enroll in their courses.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 1739 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]  
**Short Title:** Overseas Voting Practical Amendments Act of 2009  
**Sponsors:** Rep. Maloney (D-NY) and 9 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]  
**Date Introduced:** March 26, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]  
**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting

**Description:** This bill would amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) to rename the official post card form containing both an absentee voter registration application and an absentee ballot application the “Federal Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Application.”

This bill would also amend UOCAVA to: (1) permit voters to request absentee ballots in all subsequent elections; (2) repeal the requirement to provide absentee ballots in subsequent elections to individuals with unknown addresses; (3) sets forth special rules for use of federal absentee ballots in certain states; (4) apply it to individuals who have never resided in the United States (whose parents are overseas voters); (5) require prompt notification of rejection of a voter registration or absentee ballot request; and (6) provide for use of a U.S. State Department diplomatic pouch for returning completed absentee ballots.

This bill would prohibit states from refusing to accept balloting materials on any of specified grounds, including that the materials are not printed on a post card, do not include certain information, are not notarized or witnessed by an authorized official, are not delivered by the U.S. Postal Service, or do not meet certain other nonessential requirements.

The bill also would prohibit a state from requiring an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter who submits a voter registration application or absentee ballot application to include any form of

documentation which may be issued only to an individual who physically resides in the state (such as a current state motor vehicle operator's license or a current utility bill).

This bill would require for postage markings on pre-printed return envelopes prepared by a state for the submission of materials by an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter.

This bill also would direct the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to establish a grant program for outreach to absentee uniformed services voters and overseas voters.

This bill would require the head of each office of the federal government that has employees whose designated post of duty is outside the United States to notify such employees of their UOCAVA rights to submit voter registration and absentee ballot requests as well as absentee ballots (including the federal write-in absentee ballot).

This bill would require the Secretary of State to ensure that each passport issued on or after the enactment of this Act includes a page: (1) describing such rights; and (2) listing resources through which individuals may obtain additional information regarding them.

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|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Bill No.:</b>        | H.R. 1826 [ <a href="#">VIEW BILL TEXT</a> ]                        |
| <b>Short Title:</b>     | Fair Elections Now Act  |
| <b>Sponsors:</b>        | Rep. Larson (D-CT) and 125 co-sponsors [ <a href="#">VIEW ALL</a> ] |
| <b>Date Introduced:</b> | March 31, 2009 [ <a href="#">VIEW STATUS</a> ]                      |
| <b>Key Issues:</b>      | campaign finance  |
| <b>Related Bills:</b>   | S. 752  |

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) with respect to: (1) eligibility and qualifying contribution requirements and benefits of fair elections financing of House of Representatives election campaigns; (2) establishment of a Fair Elections Fund; (3) eligibility for Fund allocations; (4) contribution and expenditure requirements; (5) a public debate requirement; (6) certification of whether or not a federal election candidate is a participating candidate; (7) benefits for participating candidates; (8) matching payments for qualified small dollar contributions; (9) political advertising vouchers; (10) establishment of a Fair Elections Oversight Board; (11) civil penalties for violation of contribution and expenditure requirements; (12) prohibition of joint fundraising committees with any political committee other than a candidate's authorized committee; and (13) a specified limitation on coordinated expenditures by political party committees with participating candidates.

The bill would also:

- Amend the Communications Act of 1934 with respect to the deposit of proceeds from recovered spectrum auctions.
- Amend the Internal Revenue Code to allow for designation of a certain amount of income tax liability to the Fair Elections Fund.

- Amend the Communications Act of 1934 to: (1) prohibit the preemption of the use of a broadcasting station by a legally qualified House candidate who has purchased and paid for such use; (2) revise Federal Communications Commission (FCC) authority to revoke licenses for broadcasting stations who fail to provide access to House candidates; and (3) revise the formula for determining reduced broadcast rates for participating candidates in certain circumstances.
- Direct the FCC to initiate a rulemaking proceeding to establish a standardized form to be used by broadcasting stations to record and report the purchase of advertising time by or on behalf of a candidate for nomination for election, or for election, to federal elective office.
- Amend FECA to: (1) empower the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to petition the U.S. Supreme Court for a proceeding on certiorari; (2) revise requirements for filing with the FEC by candidates; and (3) reduce from 48 to 24 hours the deadline for electronic filing with the FEC of reports by each political committee of contributions received within 90 days before an election.

**Bill No.:** H.R. 2056 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Clean Money, Clean Elections Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Tierney (D-MA) and 2 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** April 22, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) with respect to: (1) eligibility and qualifying contribution requirements, seed money limits, and benefits of clean election financing of House election campaigns; (2) establishment of a House Clean Elections Fund; (3) eligibility for Fund allocations as well as such allocations; (4) a seed money contribution requirement; (5) contribution and expenditure requirements; (6) certification of whether or not a federal election candidate is a clean money candidate; (7) benefits for participating candidates; (8) payment of fair fight funds; (9) administration of the House Clean Elections System; (10) reporting requirements for nonparticipating candidates; (11) modification of electioneering communication reporting requirements; (12) limitation on coordinated expenditures by political party committees with participating candidates; and (13) treatment of coordinated expenditures as contributions.

This bill would also amend the Internal Revenue Code to provide a tax credit for voluntary donations to the House Clean Elections Fund.

The bill would establish the Clean Elections Review Commission.

The bill would amend the Communications Act of 1934 to entitle clean money candidates to receive specified free broadcast time and reduced broadcast rates in certain circumstances.

The bill would amend federal postal law to prohibit franked mass mailings by Members of Congress (except public meeting notices) during the 90 days before primary and general election periods, unless they are not candidates for re-election to any other federal office.

The bill would also amend FECA to: (1) empower the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to petition the U.S. Supreme Court for a proceeding on certiorari; and (2) reduce from 48 to 24 hours the deadline for electronic filing with the FEC of reports by each political committee of contributions received within 90 days before an election.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 2082 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Military and Overseas Voting Enhancement Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Holt (D-NJ)

**Date Introduced:** April 23, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting

**Description:** This bill would amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to require states to accept and process absentee ballots of overseas uniformed services and civilian voters submitted by the voter to a provider of express mail no later than the day before election day for transmission to the appropriate state election official, as long as the ballot is received within 10 days after the election.

This bill would also require the presidential designee to reimburse overseas uniformed services voters for the costs of using a provider of express mail services to transmit the ballot to the official.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 2370 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Voters' Right to Know Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Maloney (D-NY) and 1 co-sponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** May 12, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign practices

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require any person conducting a federal election phone bank (except through non-political general media facilities) to report to the Federal Election Commission specified information about phone bank costs, funding sources, household contacts, and questions asked or information provided to respondents. The bill limits such requirement to projects contacting at least 1,500 households during the 25 days before a federal election.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 2393 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Military Voting Protection Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. McCarthy, Kevin (R-CA) and 43 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** May 13, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting

**Related Bills:** S. 1026

**Description:** This bill would amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to direct the Secretary of Defense (the presidential designee) to establish procedures for: (1) collecting marked absentee ballots of absent overseas uniformed services voters in regularly scheduled general elections for federal office; and (2) delivering such ballots to the appropriate state election officials.

This bill would require the designee to: (1) ensure that such ballots are delivered prior to the time established for the closing of the polls on the date of the election; (2) carry out delivery requirements by utilizing the express mail delivery services of the U.S. Postal Service, which shall include a mechanism for ballot tracking; (3) inform individuals who are anticipated to be absent overseas uniformed services voters in such an election of the procedures for collection and delivery of marked absentee ballots established pursuant to this Act; and (4) take steps to ensure that such voters are able to cast their votes in a private and independent manner, and that vote contents remain private while in the designee's possession or control.

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**Bill No.:** H.J. Res. 52 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]

**Sponsors:** Rep. Baird (D-WA) and 1 co-sponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** May 20, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** vacancies

**Description:** This constitutional amendment would require an elected Senator or Representative in Congress, immediately after taking the oath of office, to provide the applicable chamber a list of at least three qualified designees (ranked in order of preference) to take the individual's place in the event the individual dies, becomes incapacitated, or disappears before the individual's term of office expires. The elected official may revise the list at any time during a Congress.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 2510 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Absentee Ballot Track, Receive, and Confirm Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Davis (D-CA) and 4 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** May 20, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** absentee ballots

**Description:** This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to direct the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to reimburse a state for the costs incurred in establishing, if the state so chooses, an absentee ballot tracking program for federal elections.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 2823 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to enhance and improve certain procedures relating to voting by absent members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes. (No short title)

**Sponsors:** Rep. Coffman (D-CO) and 3 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** June 11, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting

**Description:** This bill would amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to: (1) require states to accept and process, with respect to any election for federal office, any valid voter registration application, absentee ballot application, and absentee ballot submitted by an absent uniformed services voter without any requirement for notarization of the document; and (2) permit the submission of the official post card form (for simultaneous voter registration application and absentee ballot application) by electronic means.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 2894 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Holt (D-NJ) and 97 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** June 16, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** voting systems

**Related Bills:** S. 1431

**Description:** This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) to revise requirements for the audit capacity of voting systems, particularly those for a permanent paper record. The bill would mandate that the voting system to require the use of an individual, durable, voter-verified paper ballot of the voter's vote that shall be marked and made available for inspection by the voter before the voter's vote is cast and counted, and which shall be counted by hand or read by an optical scanner or other counting device. The bill would also require the voting system to provide the voter with an opportunity to correct any system-made error in the voter-verified paper ballot before it is permanently preserved.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 2993 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** To amend chapters 95 and 96 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns.

**Sponsors:** Rep. Cole (R-OK) and 17 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** June 23, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code to terminate: (1) taxpayer check offs to finance presidential election campaigns; (2) the Presidential Election Campaign Fund (Fund) and related provisions; and (3) presidential primary matching payment accounts.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 3274 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Military Voters' Equal Access to Voter Registration Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Hunter (R-CA) and 12 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** July 21, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** military and overseas voting

**Description:** This bill would amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require each Secretary of a military department to designate an office on each Armed Forces installation to ensure that certain individuals are provided the opportunity to register to vote in federal elections, update voter registrations, and request absentee ballots under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 3335 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Democracy Restoration Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Conyers (D-MI) and 12 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** July 24, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** voting rights restoration

**Description:** This bill would establish that the right to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied because past of conviction of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, the individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility. Individuals are required to be informed of their right to vote upon completion of their term of imprisonment.

The bill would also specify that: (1) nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit a state from enacting any state law that affords the right to vote in any election for federal office on terms less restrictive than those terms established by this Act; and (2) the rights and remedies established by this Act shall be in addition to all other rights and remedies provided by law, and shall not supersede, restrict, or limit the application of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 or the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

This bill would prohibit any state, unit of local government, or other person from receiving or using any federal grant amounts to construct or improve a place of incarceration unless that person has a program to notify each U.S. citizen incarcerated in that person's jurisdiction, on release from such incarceration, of that individual's rights under this Act.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 3416 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Disaster Assistance Voting Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Davis, Artur (D-AL) and 3 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** July 30, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** evacuee voting

**Description:** This bill would apply certain protections for absent military and overseas voters to individuals evacuated (eligible evacuees) as a result of a major disaster.

This bill would require any eligible evacuee to be treated in the same manner as an absentee uniformed services voter and overseas voter for purposes of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.

This bill would direct the Election Assistance Commission to make grants to eligible states to: (1) restore and replace supplies, materials, and equipment used in the state election administration which were damaged as a result of a major natural disaster; and (2) conduct outreach and education for voters displaced for the same reason.

This bill would amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require delay for at least three (currently, two) consecutive federal general elections before removal of eligible evacuees from the official list of voters by reason of their not voting or appearing to vote in several consecutive such elections.

This bill would require each motor vehicle authority and each voter registration agency in a state to take necessary steps to notify individuals to whom their services are provided of the protections afforded by this Act and of the requirements for obtaining them, including submission of an affidavit stating that the individual intends to return to the place of residence where the individual is otherwise qualified to vote.

This bill would also amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to direct the President to send a similar notice to each individual and household receiving assistance under that Act.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 3552 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Provisional Ballot Fairness in Counting Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Holt (D-NY)

**Date Introduced:** September 10, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** provisional ballots

**Description:** This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to revise requirements for the treatment of provisional ballots in federal elections.

This bill would prohibit any election recount until all provisional votes have been counted. It would also require the chief state election official, in determining whether to count a provisional vote, to review not only official registered voter lists but also any information an individual voter submitted during the registration process.

This bill would require a provisional ballot in a federal election to be treated as a voter registration application if it is rejected on the ground that the individual is not registered to vote in the election.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 3576 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Ex-Offenders Voting Rights Act of 2009

**Sponsors:** Rep. Rangel (D-NY)

**Date Introduced:** September 15, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** voting rights restoration

**Description:** This would establish that the right of a U.S. citizen to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied or abridged because that individual has been convicted of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, such individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility or is on parole or probation for a felony offense.

The bill would also authorize the Attorney General or private individuals to bring civil actions to remedy violations of this Act.

The bill would also specify that: (1) nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit a state from enacting any state law that affords the right to vote in any election for federal office on terms less restrictive than those terms established by this Act; and (2) the rights and remedies established by this

Act shall be in addition to all other rights and remedies provided by law, and shall not supersede, restrict, or limit the application of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 or the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 3835 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Protection Against Wrongful Voter Purges Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Holt (D-NY)

**Date Introduced:** October 15, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** voter purges

**Description:** This bill would amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 and the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to strengthen protections against the wrongful removal of individuals from the official list of eligible voters and the wrongful denial of applications for voter registration, and for other purposes.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 3957 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Same Day Registration Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Ellison (D-MN) and 5 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** October 28, 2009 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** Election Day registration

**Related Bills:** S. 1986

**Description:** This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require states to provide for same day registration.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4449 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Responsible Online Voter Empowerment Registration Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. McCarthy, Kevin (R-CA) and 1 co-sponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 13, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** internet voter registration

**Description:** This bill would direct the Election Assistance Commission to reimburse States for costs incurred in establishing online voter registration programs, and for other purposes.

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**Bill No.:** H.J. Res. 68 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]

**Sponsors:** Rep. Boswell (D-IA)

**Date Introduced:** January 21, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that prohibits corporations and labor organizations from using operating funds for advertisements in connection with any campaign for election for Federal office.

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**Bill No.:** H.J. Res. 69 [[VIEW RES. TEXT](#)]

**Sponsors:** Rep. Hoekstra (R-MI)

**Date Introduced:** January 21, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** direct legislative control

**Description:** This resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to give citizens of the United States the right to enact and repeal laws by voting on legislation in a national election.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4498 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Federal None of the Above Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Hoekstra (R-MI)

**Date Introduced:** January 21, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** alternative voting options

**Description:** This bill would permit voters to vote for "None of the Above" in elections for Federal office and to require an additional election if "None of the Above" receives the most votes

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4510 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** America is for Americans Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Grayson (D-FL)

**Date Introduced:** January 26, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to apply the ban on contributions and expenditures by foreign nationals to domestic corporations in which foreign principals have an ownership interest.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4511 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Pick Your Poison Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Grayson (D-FL)

**Date Introduced:** January 26, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit corporations which employ or retain registered lobbyists from making expenditures or disbursements for electioneering communications under such Act, and for other purposes.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4517 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Freedom from Foreign-Based Manipulation in American Elections Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Hall (D-NY) and 4 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 26, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to apply the ban on contributions and expenditures by foreign nationals to domestic corporations which are owned or controlled by foreign principals, to increase the civil penalties applicable to foreign nationals who violate the ban, and for other purposes.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4522 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Prohibiting Foreign Influence in American Elections Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Pascrell (D-NJ) and 31 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 26, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to apply the ban on contributions and expenditures by foreign nationals to domestic corporations which are owned or controlled by foreign principals.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4523 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Save Our Democracy from Foreign Influence Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Perriello (D-VA)

**Date Introduced:** January 26, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to apply the ban on contributions and expenditures by foreign nationals to domestic corporations whose shareholders include any foreign principals.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4527 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** CLEAR Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Driehaus (D-OH)

**Date Introduced:** January 27, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require certain campaign-related communications paid for by a corporation or labor organization to include a statement identifying the chief executive officer of the corporation or the president of the labor organization, and for other purposes.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4540 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Prevent Foreign Influence in our Elections Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. DeLauro (D-CT) and 4 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** January 27, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to extend the ban on election activity by foreign nationals to election activity by domestic corporations which are subsidiaries of foreign principals.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4583 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Stand By Your Ad Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Bocchieri (D-OH)

**Date Introduced:** February 3, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require certain campaign-related communications which are paid for by certain tax-exempt organizations or political organizations to include a statement naming their five largest donors, and for other purposes.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4617 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Separate Taxpayer Dollars from the Election Process Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Waltz (DFL-MN)

**Date Introduced:** February 5, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit the use of federal funds for any expenditure or electioneering communication if such funds are required to be segregated under this Act.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4644 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Fairness in Corporate Campaign Spending Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Sestak (D-PA)

**Date Introduced:** February 22, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit a corporation from making any independent expenditure or disbursing funds for any electioneering communication without obtaining the prior approval of a majority of its shareholders. This bill would subject officers and directors of a corporation to personal liability for civil money penalties for violating this prohibition.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4724 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Leadership PAC Limitation Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Capuano (D-MA)

**Date Introduced:** March 2, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit the conversion of leadership PAC funds to personal use.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4739 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reduce the limit on the amount of certain contributions which may be made to a candidate with respect to an election for Federal office.

**Sponsors:** Rep. Capuano (D-MA)

**Date Introduced:** March 3, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reduce from \$2,000 to \$1,000 the maximum amount of contributions that any person may make to any candidate with respect to election for federal office.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4749 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Stand By Every Ad Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Price (D-NC) and 7 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** March 3, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require the identification of funding and authorizing sources in communications expressly advocating the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate (as under current law) or which consist of the functional equivalent of express advocacy.

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**Bill No.:** H. Con. Res. 249 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Commemorating the 45th anniversary of Bloody Sunday and the role that it played in ensuring the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965

**Sponsors:** Rep. Lewis (D-GA)

**Date Introduced:** March 16, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** voting rights general

**Description:** This resolution would commemorate the 45th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, and observe and celebrate the 45th anniversary of the enactment of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 4918 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Redistricting Transparency Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Tanner (D-TN) and 38 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** March 23, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** redistricting

**Description:** This bill would require states to carry out congressional redistricting in accordance with a process under which members of the public are informed of redistricting proposals via the Internet and have the opportunity to participate in the development of such proposals prior to their adoption.

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**Bill No.:** H.J Res. 82 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Doris 'Granny D' Haddock Amendment of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Hodes (D-NH)

**Date Introduced:** April 14, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This amendment would prohibit the Constitution from being construed to limit the authority of Congress or the states to regulate, with regard to the impact on any political campaign or campaign for election for public office, the spending and activities of any corporation, limited liability partnership, business trust, or other corporate entity created by state or federal law or the law of another nation.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 5086 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Online Disclosure for Access to Campaign Funds Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Sensenbrenner (R-WI) and 1 co-sponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** April 20, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require the treasurer of each authorized political committee to establish a separate account for the committee consisting exclusively of contributions received by or on behalf of it, and to deposit each contribution into the account immediately upon receipt.

This bill would also prohibit the use of amounts in such account to make disbursements by or on behalf of the committee, allowing their use only for transfers to other committee accounts of the committee.

This bill would require the treasurer of an authorized committee to ensure that the balance of the account is equal to the total amounts deposited into it reduced by the total amount of all contributions deposited into it with respect to which the treasurer has identified the contributor on a publicly accessible Internet site of the committee.

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 5175 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Democracy is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections (DISCLOSE) Act

**Sponsors:** Rep. Van Hollen (D-MD) and 114 co-sponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** May 25, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) to prohibit: (1) independent expenditures and payments for electioneering communications by government

contractors if the value of the contract is at least \$7 million; and (2) recipients of assistance under the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (EESA) from making any contribution to any political party, committee, or candidate for public office, or to any person for any political purpose or use, or from making any independent expenditure or disbursing any funds for an electioneering communication. [[VIEW MORE DETAILED SUMMARY](#)]

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**Bill No.:** H.R. 5410 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

**Short Title:** Accountability in Corporate Political Activity Act of 2010

**Sponsors:** Rep. Lipinski (D-IL) [[VIEW ALL](#)]

**Date Introduced:** May 26, 2010 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

**Key Issues:** campaign finance

**Description:** This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit corporations which are subject to certain criminal or civil sanctions from engaging in campaign-related activity under such Act, and for other purposes.